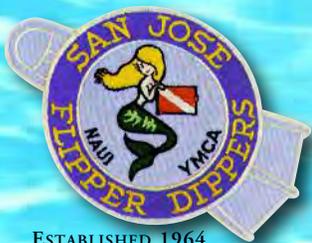


NEWSLETTER



ESTABLISHED 1964

San Jose Flipper Dippers

MARCH
2017

GENERAL MEETINGS HELD
3RD WEDNESDAY
OF EACH MONTH
WWW.SJFLIPPERDIPPERS.COM



DIVING GNOME ADVENTURES

Join us for a special presentation on a wide assortment of photos taken of the Diving Gnome! This little guy traveled the world and the Monterey



Bay with a number of Club members. **Jim Rezowalli** will be showing photos taken during the Gnome's most excellent adventures. Some are above the water, some are below the water and some .

.. well, you'll have to see to believe. Don't miss this Meeting as it's bound to provide lots of great photos and great laughs! (p.s.: If you haven't already done so, get your photos of the Diving Gnome to Jim ASAP to be included in the presentation.)



Something must be funny – Or not!

Club members, from left, **Greg Davis, John Schwartz, John Snyder,** guest master of ceremonies **C. Anemone, Lance Williams** and **Teresa Hanson** ham it up for a photo during this year's Annual Awards Banquet in January. Or could it be they're just getting ready to do the dishes to pay for their meals? See more photos page 5.

Oceanic whitetip shark warrants 'threatened' listing

The oceanic whitetip shark's declining status in the wild warrants listing as threatened under the Endangered Species Act, an arm of the federal government has determined. The shark is found around the world, mostly in open water, and the conservation group Defenders of Wildlife called on the government to list the species. The listing would be the most widespread shark listing in the U.S. to date.

The National Marine Fisheries Service said in a document published in the Federal Register in December that the sharks are indeed likely to become endangered in all or at least a significant portion of their range "within the foreseeable future."

Threats to the sharks include fishing pressure all over the world, as their fins are prized in Asian markets for use in soup. The sharks have declined by 80 to 90 percent in the Pacific Ocean since the 1990s, and 50 percent to 85 percent in

What's Inside?



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Refreshments Are Being Served

The following Dippers are asked to bring a tasty goodie to the next General Meeting: **Kelly Drake, Tom Gardner, Jackie Gardner, Teresa Hanson, Manuel Mangrobang, and Ed McNeill.** Don't forget you will receive a FREE raffle ticket for your donation!

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Greetings from Atlanta! By the time you read this, I'll be back home with wonderful memories of my visit to the Georgia Aquarium, where I got to feed a sea otter and feel its fur, and pet a penguin! But best of all, I got to do a rebreather dive in their 6.3 million gallon aquarium with whalesharks, giant mantas and other rays, a sea turtle and many fish large and small.

Most of their exhibits involve species that are threatened or endangered in the wild. Their mission includes 4Rs: Rescue, Rehabilitation, Research and Responsibility. On one day of my visit there were multiple school groups, and it was great to see the kids marvel at the beluga whales, dolphins and other animals. It

reminded me of how important is it to protect the marine environment and how lucky we are to have the opportunity to dive right in our own backyard and to have access to our own wonderful local aquarium.

Local dive conditions in February were less than optimal, but **Howard Timoney** and **Grace Chi** were brave enough to show up for the S3 night dive and make 2 dives. We're hoping conditions improve for March.

We are looking for someone to promote and coordinate our Star Achievement Program, which is designed to provide club members the opportunity and encouragement to experience a variety of diving opportunities to become a better diver – and have more fun! (All of the requirements are listed on the club website and on page 6 of this newsletter.) This is a simple task of keeping track of participating member's meeting the requirements and handing out the "Stars" – typically at a General Meeting. We have forms for keeping track of each participant's progress towards being awarded a "Star." Let me know if this sounds like something you'd like to do!

And remember, while the board has been brainstorming new ideas and new activities for 2017, we want to hear from YOU! You can email your ideas to me or any of the club officers, put them into the "Suggestion Bag" at any meeting, or come to any business meeting. We'll be discussing all of the input we receive at an upcoming general meeting.

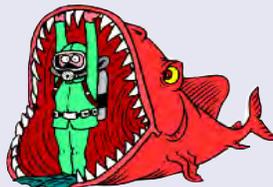
Everyone keep safe and let's go diving! – **Barbara**

Diver's I.Q. Review Corner

This Month's Question is TWO questions and Each is worth a chance at FIVE raffle tickets:

Question #1) Respiratory heat loss is increased when breathing from compressed gas sources underwater.

- A) True
- B) False



Question #2) You have to choose to enter one of three rooms:

- A) Inside the first room is a team of ninjas hired to kill you.
- B) Inside the second is a tiger that hasn't eaten for three months.
- C) Inside the third is a raging inferno.

Which room do you enter?

Send your answer by e-mail to **Larry Ankuda** at lankuda@comcast.net. All attendees at the next general meeting with the correct answers will be included in a drawing for 10 free raffle tickets. Good Luck!



San Jose Flipper Dippers

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SERGEANT AT ARMS

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STAR ACHIEVEMENT

★ -> OPEN <- ★

TROPHY COMPETITION

John Snyder 408-378-4963

RAFFLE NEWS

Lance Williams

Dippers, this was the shortest, fastest, raffle I've ever been part of. For starters we had four donated raffle gifts by two Dippers and two Mystery Gifts from the Club. **Tom Gardner** scored twice! With the first ticket drawn he picked the 'lower end' of the Mystery Gifts. Then with his number on the second ticket picked, he chose the other Mystery Gift, a \$25 gift card. The Raffle Chairman (yours truly) picked the first of two, one-pound wild mushroom packages donated by **Larry Ankuda**. The second mushroom package was picked by **Manuel Mangrobang**. Manuel also won the BCD regulator fill valve donated by **Lance Williams**. Lets look for larger selection of raffle prizes next month. If your name is up for a donation (see below) please participate. If you can't make the meeting, contact me and I'll pick out a gift for you!

THE DOOR PRIZE: The \$50 door prize was up for grabs and **Mark Pryor's** name was drawn – but he was not at the meeting. **So it's now \$60** for our February general meeting.

THIS MONTH'S RAFFLE: Each month we pick names from the Club's Roster for members to bring a donation for the Raffle Table. So this month the following folks are asked to bring a dive-related gift: **Jim Rezowalli, Bill Shipman, John Snyder, Howard** (Dear Leader For Life) **Timoney** and **Carl Tuttle**

If you live out of the area or can't attend the General Meeting, please contact Lance Williams, 1-650-321-5255, Willo1044@yahoo.com, to send in a check. He will pick up a raffle donation in your name. The raffle has always been an important part of our General Meetings. Please do your part as a Club member and provide a raffle donation when your name comes up. Thank you! ★

MEMBERSHIP

Teresa Hanson

There are prospective members looking to dive and we look forward to diving with you! Prospectives must have a Club jacket either in possession or on order to be voted into the Club. See the Club's Website (Membership Requirements) for information and where to purchase. Contact Teresa for additional information on any and all Membership Requirements.

Congratulations to **Jackie Gardner** who has joined the ranks of the LORDs (Loyal Order of Retired Dippers). Jackie joins a bunch of other retired Dippers who can now dive any time they want!

A FREE raffle ticket will be given to the following Dipper who has a birthday this month: **Don Mercado** and **Mark Pryor**. Happy birthday to our fellow Flipper Dippers! ★

PHOTO COMPETITION

Jim Rezowalli announced the winners of the 2016 Club Photo Competition as a result of members and guests voting on the photos on display at the Annual Awards Banquet in January. Cash awards went to the winners for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places. Congratulations to everyone who participated! ★

U/W Photo Category

1st – Greg Davis
2nd – Mike Chalup
3rd – Jim Rezowalli

Diving Gnome Photo Category

1st – Jim Rezowalli
2nd – Carl Tuttle
3rd – Barbara Davis

Dippers Brave Elements for Clams

You might not be allowed to take abalone on April 1, but you can get clams. Four of your fellow Dippers, **Larry Ankuda, John Snyder, Tom** and **Jackie Gardner**, all LORDs, braved three elements on Wednesday, February 8th for limits of these succulent critters. The three elements were earth, wind, and water. The earth was being washed into the sea. Driver John braved 1/8 mile of completely flooded road to get to Nick's Cove. The wind made its notice on the boat ride out, blowing brown spray over the port side of the *Minnow* while Tom and Larry bailed – and Jackie supervised. The water was high as well as muddy from the rains but enough bar showed to allow digging. Jackie took photos of our intrepid clammers, the only ones on the bar.

Afterward, being thoroughly chilled, our group headed for the 4th element: fire. John wasn't going back through the flooded road, so headed for Pt. Reyes Station, where they found a welcoming rustic restaurant with a hot brick pizza oven next to the entrance. They celebrated a successful evening over dinner and drinks.



Jackie & Tom

2017 TROPHY STANDINGS

Each month the person whose name appears in the newsletter will receive **3 FREE RAFFLE TICKETS** at the General Meeting — if in attendance. If you hold a trophy several months in succession, you will receive **3 FREE** tickets each month until someone beats your catch.

Contact **John Snyder** at +1-408-202-5196, e-mail: john.fishhunter@gmail.com, **WITHIN 1 WEEK** and give him all the proper info (include the name of one Club-member witness). ★

SKIN DIVING

□ OPEN CATEGORIES □

Lingcod, Abalone, Cabezon, Sheephead, Lobster, Halibut, White Sea Bass, Striped Bass

SCUBA

□ OPEN CATEGORIES □

Lingcod, Cabezon, Sheephead, Lobster, Halibut

The race is on! Good luck to all!



Some talk over how to prepare their clams ensued.. abalone chowder doesn't hold a candle to clam chowder... Some say clams are delicious raw as sashimi... Serve it with soy sauce, wasabi, or ginger... Clam is the fruit of the sea. You can barbecue it, boil it, broil it, bake it, saute it... Dey's uh, clam-kabobs, clam creole, clam gumbo... Pan fried, deep fried, stir-fried... There's pineapple clams, lemon clams, coconut clams, pepper clams, clam soup, clam stew, clam salad, clams and potatoes, clam burger, clam sandwich... That-about it. ★



John gets his motor running

Digging-it with Larry

Continued from front page

the Atlantic Ocean since the 1950s, said Chelsey Young, a natural resource management specialist for the fisheries service.

"The oceanic whitetip has very large pectoral fins, and so they have fetched a high price on the international market in Asia," Young said. "It incentivized the fin trade."



The fisheries service is collecting public comments about the shark's status until March and is expected to make a final decision in November. Listing the species as threatened would afford it protections aimed at recovery. ★

Court: 'K-19: The Widomaker' sub must be removed from river

A Rhode Island court has ordered a scrapyards to remove the remnants of a Russian submarine once used as a set for a Harrison Ford movie from the Providence River. The hull of the submarine, known as Juliett 484, rests mere feet from the shore in Providence.

After the Cold War, the sub was sold and used as a restaurant and vodka bar in Helsinki, Finland, and as a set for the 2002 Ford movie "K-19: The Widomaker." Then it became a floating museum. It sank during a nor'easter in 2007 and was sold for scrap. State environmental officials sued to get it and several other vessels removed.

A Superior Court judge ordered Rhode Island Recycled Metals LLC in December to begin removing vessels from the river, adjacent to its scrapyards. The permitting process is underway. The company was supposed to apply for permits by Jan. 15 for removing the first vessel.

Those permits haven't been issued yet, according to Richard Land, appointed by the court to oversee the cleanup. Land said the deadline turned out to be far too aggressive, but the parties are making good-faith efforts. An amended court order submitted Thursday extends the deadline by two months.

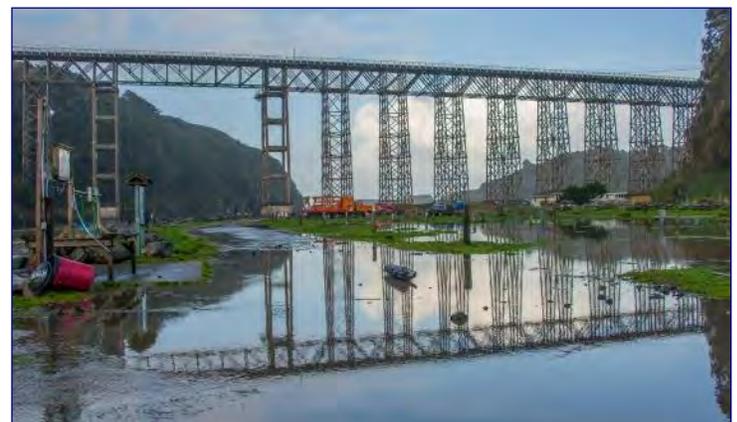
The 282-foot-long sub and a U.S. aircraft carrier, the USS Saratoga, shadowed each other during the Cold War. The sub wound up in Providence because the Rhode Island-based USS Saratoga Museum Foundation bought it and opened it to the public as a floating museum in 2002.



Both the scrapyards and the property owner, AARE LLC, are named in the lawsuit. The scrapyards has been ordered to deposit \$300,000 in an escrow account to pay for removing the vessels. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Coast Guard are among the agencies that have to approve the plans. ★

Albion River floods campground

The big storms that hit California in February caused much flooding including the Albion river at Albion Flat Campground. Photos from the Campground's Facebook page show the flooding. Hopefully no one was hurt and things get back to normal by the Memorial Day Weekend in May for the Club's big ab dive and campout. ★



POLICE BLOTTER

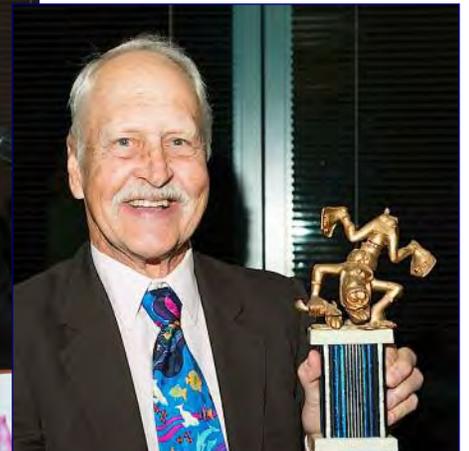
35200 Block of Newark Blvd.
1:13 p.m. Jan. 23

According to police, someone stole 40 pounds worth of lobster from Ranch 99 Market.



Awards Banquet

(Photos: Mike Chalup)



STAR ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM



Ever notice there are some Club members with Gold Stars on the back of their jackets? How do you get some? Chances are, you already qualify for your first 'Star' and didn't even know it! Participating in the Star Achievement Program gives Club members the opportunity to improve your diving skills, learn new things, refresh the things you learned, and get in the water! Many of these activities are included in the dives the Club schedules so you don't need to make any special arrangements.

Here's how to get yours: Stars are awarded in numerical order upon completion of all previous requirements. These achievements may be accomplished and recorded in any order. It is the Club member's responsibility to make sure these accomplishments are recorded with the Star Achievement Program Chairperson. Review the list below – as a Club member you're on your way.

1st STAR AWARD ★

1. Show SCUBA certification from a nationally recognized certification agency.
2. Log ten (10) dives with the Club.
3. Dive to 60 feet in the ocean on a Club dive.

2nd STAR AWARD ★ ★

1. Log 20 total dives (not necessarily Club dives).
2. Have current CPR AND First Aid certification.
3. Coordinate two (2) scheduled Club dives.
4. Assist at two (2) scheduled Club activities.
5. Prove ability to use a compass by showing proof of: a) Navigation Specialty, OR b) Advanced Diver certification.

3rd STAR AWARD ★ ★ ★

1. Obtain a Scuba Rescue course certification from a nationally recognized certification agency.
2. Complete one (1) year as an active skin and SCUBA diver AND Club member.
3. Complete at least one (1) of the following: a) assist at four (4) club activities, b) coordinate four (4) scheduled Club dives, OR c) dive with four (4) prospective Club members.
4. Have current CPR AND First Aid certification.
5. Show certification of one (1) of the following courses: a) O2 Provider, b) Nitrox, OR c) Advanced Diver.

4th STAR AWARD ★ ★ ★ ★

1. Complete two (2) years as an active skin and SCUBA diver AND Club member.
2. Log at least two (2) night dives.
3. Serve as a Club Committee Chair, OR participate in at least two (2) different ocean/dive-related public services.
4. Have current CPR, First Aid AND Scuba Rescue certification.
5. Coordinate the following scheduled Club dives: a) one (1) boat dive, b) one (1) abalone dive, AND c) one (1) night dive.
6. Dive with at least six (6) prospective Club members.

5th STAR AWARD ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

1. Successfully complete all previous requirements.
2. Complete three (3) years as an active skin and SCUBA diver AND Club member.
3. Have current CPR, First Aid AND Scuba Rescue certification.
4. Be a nationally certified: a) SCUBA Instructor, b) Assistant Instructor, c) Dive Master, d) Master Scuba Diver, OR e) serve one (1) year as a Club Officer.

Mysterious shark-eating orcas nab a big one off Monterey; rare video

By Pete Thomas

December 14, 2016. A photographer off Monterey, Calif., has captured rare video footage – perhaps first of its kind – showing offshore killer whales passing around a live sevengill shark. The drone footage, captured by Slater Moore of Monterey Bay Whale Watch, reveals an adult killer whale clutching the shark in its jaws, and ultimately letting go so other orcas can have a taste.

This appears to have been a teaching experience for very young

calves, which also can be seen in the extraordinary clip. "It's a very rare sighting, and an extraordinary observation," said Alisa Schulman-Janiger, a researcher with the California Killer Whale Project. "I do not think that anyone has drone footage of this prey sharing, involving very small calves, in California."



A killer whale clutches a live sevengill shark in its jaws.

Stated Moore on Facebook: "So lucky to get to see this!"

Offshore killer whales, first identified in 1988, are known to prey on sleeper sharks, opah, tuna, and other pelagic fishes. This might be the first documentation of the mammals preying on a sevengill shark. Offshore killer whales are more common off British Columbia, Canada, but even sightings in that region are rare.

The mammals, which are smaller than transients, were first documented off California in 1992, in Monterey Bay. Interestingly, offshore killer whales were spotted in Monterey Bay last December 12, 2015, almost one year to the day before Tuesday's sighting. ★

DIVE & ACTIVITY CALENDAR

MANUEL MANGROBANG

www.SJFLIPPERDIPPERS.COM

MARCH 2017

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1
VAN DAMME RESERVATIONS OPEN 8:00 AM FOR SEPT. If you're camping starting on Friday, Sept. 1 for Labor Day Weekend, jump on your reservations and secure those campsites! Reserve America, www.reserveamerica.com, 1-800-444-7275.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1
BUSINESS MEETING. 7:30 PM
Meeting will be held at **Teresa Hanson's** home, 408-966-6433, teresa_hanson@comcast.net. All members are invited to attend. This is a good time to share your new ideas for dives and entertainment. Refreshments to share are welcome.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4
NO SCHEDULED DIVE

SATURDAY, MARCH 11
SECOND SATURDAY SCUBA (S3)
Coordinator: Manuel Mangrobang, 1-408-813-5139. manuel.a.mangrobang.iv@gmail.com. Meet in the Breakwater parking lot at 8:00 am and we'll decide where to dive

based on conditions and sign-ups. Bring 2 tanks and plan on making 2 dives. Please RSVP in case the dive gets cancelled or moved due to weather or surf conditions.

GENERAL MEETING **WEDNESDAY,** **March 15th**

7:30 PM at the Knights of Columbus Santa Maria Hall
2211 Shamrock Dr., Campbell.

Come celebrate 52 Years of the San Jose Flipper Dippers at our General Meeting.

Entertainment: Special presentation by Flipper Dipper **Jim Rezowalli** on fellow Dippers' photos of the Diving Gnome.

★ **Great Refreshments**

★ **Great Raffle Prizes**

THE DOOR PRIZE IS \$60!

YOU must be present to win!

SATURDAY, MARCH 18
NO SCHEDULED DIVE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22
LOBSTER SEASON CLOSES
Be sure to send in your report cards or go on-line to report.

SATURDAY, MARCH 25
NO SCHEDULED DIVE

SATURDAY APRIL 1 (No foolin')
TOMALES BAY CLAM DIG

Coordinator: Larry Ankuda, 1-408-378-4963. Sign up at the general meeting and indicate if you are able to kayak; if we have boat(s) you may have a ride. Plan to leave San Jose just after 6:00 AM. The launch beach depends on boat availability and number of clambers. Novices are welcome.

UPCOMING IN APRIL

- 01 Tomales Bay Clam Dig
- 05 Business Meeting
- 08 Second Saturday SCUBA (S3): UW Easter Egg Hunt
- 19 General Meeting - Happy Birthday! SJFD 53 Years Old
- 20 - 23 Van Damme Campout & Dive



Get that camper or tent ready for April's Van Damme Weekend.

April 20-23 Is going to be the Dippers' first dive and campout of the season. Some folks made reservations months ago, well before the month of April was closed to harvesting abalone.

But that's OK, we have lots of options including SCUBA diving, U/W treasure hunts, freediving for fish, bike rides, kayaking, hiking, wine tasting, a Saturday night potluck dinner, and possibly a ride on the Ft. Bragg Skunk Train! As this newsletter was being prepared, there were plenty of sites in the 'Lower Loop' still available (sites 1-13). Camping reservations can be made through Reserve America at 1-800-444-7275 or on the Web at ReserveAmerica.com. Sign up sheet will be at the March General Meeting. Coordinator is: **Carl Tuttle:** 1-408-286-7956, email: tutcomms@sbcglobal.net. ★



Upcoming April Second Saturday Scuba (S3): 8th Annual U/W Easter Egg Hunt, Aka: Eggxacta Scramble

On April 8, Dippers will be hustling to find 36 eggs, numbered 1 to 36, distributed at random – we hope – for this year's Annual Underwater Easter Egg Hunt at Del Monte Beach. This is a LOT of FUN! Last year there were 11 divers searching the shallow waters for the elusive eggs. Great prizes will be given for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place for the highest totals added together from the numbers written on the eggs. Be sure to sign up at the March general meeting! ★



The 7th Annual U/W Easter Egg Hunt participants included, from left, Jim, Grace, Steven, John, Manuel, Anton, Mike, Barbara, Brian, Carl and Tom. (Where's the light bulb salesman?)

NOTE: All certified divers are encouraged to attend San Jose Flipper Dippers' dives.

Non-Club members will be required to show proof of certification to the dive coordinator prior to entering the water with our group. Please sign up for dives at the General Meeting or call the coordinator. This is needed in case of cancellation or changes.



San Jose Flipper Dippers

P.O. Box 7421
San Jose, CA 95150



Follow us on
Facebook



FIRST CLASS MAIL

2017 COMING EVENTS

March 1	Business Meeting
March 11	Second Saturday SCUBA
March 15	• General Meeting
April 1	Tomaes Bay Clam Dig
April 5	Business Meeting
April 8	2nd Saturday SCUBA - UW Egg Hunt
April 19	• General Meeting
April 20-23	Van Damme Campout & Dive
May 1	Abalone Season Open
May 3	Business Meeting
May 6-7	SCUBA Show: Long Beach, CA
May 13	Second Saturday SCUBA: Pt. Lobos
May 17	• General Meeting - Spring Raffle
May 26-29	Memorial Day Albion Ab Weekend
June 7	Business Meeting
June 10	Second Saturday SCUBA
June 21	• General Meeting - Food Drive



Memorial Day Weekend, May 26-29: Come join fellow Flipper Dippers for one of our biggest and best North Coast gatherings. The Club has reserved camping sites at Albion for Friday through Sunday nights. **More info in next month's newsletter** ★

Watch This Space - Much More To Come! See the Club's Website for the full Calendar



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